

The Daily Gazetteer.

No. 352

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25. 1742.



E bear it very often asserted, and a late angry Writer has laid it down as an indubitable Truth, That every Private Man has a Right to lay open whatever appears to him as a Blemish in any Publick Character, provided he believes that by doing so he can any way contribute to the Service of his Country. If this should be accounted just, then the Converse of the Proposition will be, that if any Private Man is sensible that many Publick Characters are injured by gross Negligence, it is his Duty to publish this, and to clear the World as he can. Under a Sense of this obligation, I shall venture to examine two of those which have been very strongly laid down by Persons now in Power, and shall offer my own as have occur'd to me in Proof of their Justice and Falshood.

It is alledged, That the present Administration, in the use of the Sinking Fund, have departed from their original Principles; and that we may infer from this Point, what Credit is due to their Justice and Falshood.

Upon this observe, that those who lay this down, tend to insist on any positive or explicit Assurance given by the Persons they charge, That they came into Power, they would not, on any or under any Circumstances, apply or mortify the Sinking Fund; No, this is not so much as all the Evidence offered in support of this Charge, is this, That heretofore under very different circumstances, when a general Opinion prevailed, the Sinking Fund ought to be held sacred, and never'd to any Use but the Payment of the Publick Debts, they opposed the making use of it for the service of the Year. This is, certainly, the true State of the Case; and upon it I shall only make two.

The first is, That when those who are now

opposed the Application of the Sinking Fund, were undecided, whether that Fund was pro or against their Power, and might be legally so apply'd.

Now the Affirmative of this has been unani-

mously agreed in the Treatise intituled, *The Case of the Sinking Fund*; and in consequence of the Arguments

so well founded, that Fund had been frequently dis-

puted, that when these Gentlemen came into Power,

it was a Point out of Dispute, and not a Point

settled, as it was when they opposed it. My Second

Point is, That tho' they might think it very inex-

plicable when they were persuaded of its Legality,

the Sinking Fund in a Time of profound Peace,

applies in another Way might have been easily

settled by no means imply that they would

be of the same Opinion, notwithstanding any

Circumstances; or, which is the same thing,

would hesitate at applying the Sinking Fund,

the Nation was distressed, and all the usual Ways

of Money strained to the utmost Height. This

settling the Sinking Fund being also a de-

sired not a disputed Case, and no better Method

supposed or left. As to the Difference of their

Opinions, when they are supposed to have chang'd

their Mind, it is altogether in their Favour, since by

being in, they must be certainly the best Judges

of the Justice of this Measure.

It has been insisted upon, that the War in the West Indies has been suffered to sleep, that we seem to have for-

feited the Maxim of *Take and hold*, and, that we have been assiduous in doing other Peoples Busi-

ness, and have neglected our own.

We often wondered at hearing this said, considering

that have been taken already in that Part of the

World, that these Measures were recommended by those

now in Power, they were certainly just and

wise, and we had nothing else upon our Hands.

Things are much chang'd since then. We have lost

many Men in that Part of the World, and great

Misfortunes have arisen amongst those who commanded

them. Accidents can be no way imputed to the

Administration, yet they must necessarily influ-

ence Conduct, and render them less ready to expose

troops, and send new Fleets, till the Misfortunes of

former were thoroughly examined, that their Causes

be known, and adequate Remedies applied. Be-

cause Reasons were much strengthen'd by other

things that have fallen out since. We have now other Employment for our Fleets and Forces, Employment that in all Appearance concerns us as nearly, and which in all Probability will answer the End of a War in the West Indies, and compel the Spaniards to make such a Peace as may be agreeable to the Views upon which we enter'd into the War. At least, this may be in a great measure concluded from the Advices lately receiv'd from Spain, which say, that the only thing which retards a Peace with England is, our Firmness in respect to the Settlement of Don Philip in Italy; which is a full Proof, that the present Ministry are not so complaisant as to gratify her Catholic Majesty in any of her Views.

We have heard it thrown in the Teeth of some great Men, that tho' they have heretofore declared against Negotiations, yet they have boldly entered into Negotiations themselves.

We must always distinguish between the different Kinds of Negotiations, and between the Seasons in which Negotiations are set on foot. In answer to this Objection I shall only observe, that the Negotiations they hint at were entered upon with the universal Applause of the Nation, and were Negotiations the Nation had long called for, as well as directly opposite in their Nature to the Kind of Negotiations which the present Ministers, when out of Power, opposed. In this respect therefore, and I believe in every other, they have acted consistently, vigorously, and prudently. As to Success, it is not in the Power of Man; but it we consider how low the Credit of the Nation was, how perplexed our own Affairs, and how bad the general Situation of Europe, when those now at the Helm entered on the Administration, we ought rather to admire and thank them for what they have done, than to vilify or asperse them for not doing what never appears to have been in their Power.

H O M E P O R T S.

Plymouth, Dec. 21. Yesterday came in his Majesty's Ship the Bridgewater, Capt. Frederick Rogers, from Lisbon, and brought in with him a Spanish Privateer of 20 Guns and 140 Men, which he took in the Bay. This Day came in the Saphire, from a Cruize.

Poole, Dec. 22. Wind S. S. W. Came in the Robert, Beef, the Weston's Adventure, Weston, and the Sarah, Recks, all from Lisbon; the John, Jandine, the Thomas and Mary, Pike, and the Mary and Barbara, Haufelber, all from Newfoundland; and the Hopewell, Rowe, from Foy. Sailed the Jane, Shank, the Richard and Sarah, Nickles, the Desire, Rose, the William, Thompson, and the Industrious Bee, Durell, all for London.

Southampton, Dec. 23. Wind E. S. E. Since my last arrived the Wilmington, Fry, and the John, Thoume, both from Guernsey, and the Clifton, Wadmore, from Biddeford for Bremen.

Dover, Dec. 23. Wind S. W. Arrived the Minerva, Cloed, from Carolina, and the Philip and Peter, North, from Virginia. Came in the Neptune, Burgh, for Oporto, to the Ann, Mockham, for Plymouth, the Thomas and James, Bliften, for Southampton, the Lewis, Headly, for Newhaven, the Elizabeth, Osborn, for Arundel, and the Happy Return, Davis, all from London; and the Saint James, Owzell, from Brest for this Place. Sailed the Mary and Ellen, Dean, for Waterford.

Dartmouth, Dec. 23. Wind S. E. Remain in the Downs his Majesty's Ships the Dover, Lynn, Dealcastle, Lyme, Greyhound, Fox, Industry Tender, and all the Outward-bound as per last. Came down the Budgen, French, for Africa; the Blest, Fowler, and the Morecroft, Barry, for Liverpool. Arrived the Catherine, Egglesstone, from Nevis.

Arrived

At Antigua, the Charming Molly, Righton, and the Biddy, Tarleton, both from London.

At Carolina, the Hector, Rogers, and the Lawrence, Croftwairt, both from ditto.

At New York, the Launceston Man of War, Captain Warren, from Spithead, and the Francis, Cooledge, from London.

At Dartmouth, the Dartmouth, Porter, from Newfoundland.

L O N D O N .

By Letters from Virginia, by way of Bristol, dated Nov. 5. there is Advice of the Death of the following Gentlemen; viz. of the Hon. William Randolph, Esq; one of his Majesty's Council; of Mr. Gooch, the only Son of the Governor, who was Naval Officer of York River; and of Capt. Heysham Randolph.

Yesterday the Charitable Legacy of the late William Taylour, Esq; of Saville-Row, was distributed among

Ten poor House-keepers of St. James's Parish, being 50 l. apiece, without any Charge or Deduction whatsoever.

The same Day her Grace the Duchess of Montague set out for the Bath, in order to make use of the Waters there for the Recovery of her Health.

On Thursday last the Right Hon. the Countess of Sandwich was safely deliver'd of a Son, at his Lordship's House in Dover-street.

High Water this Day	Morning	Evening
at London-Bridge.	5 08 48	5 09 15

Bank Stock, 142 5-8ds to 3-4ths. India, Nothing done. South Sea, 111 3-4ths. Old Annuity, 114 to 1-8th. New ditto, Books shut. Three per Cent. Annuities, Books shut. Seven per Cent. Loan, Nothing done. Five per Cent. ditto, Nothing done. Royal Assurance, Nothing done. London Assurance, 11 5-8ths. India Bonds, 41 9s. to 8s. to 9s. Premium. Bank Circulation, 31 12s. 6d. Prem. Salt Tallys, Nothing done. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders, 105. Three per Cent. ditto, 98. Million Bank, 116. Equivalent, Books shut.

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